

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage media having stored thereon computer instructions for a computer-based extendable application framework that when executed by a processor cause the instructions to provide computer-based extendable application framework embodied on one or more computer-readable storage media, comprising:

a user interface;

a plurality of services, wherein a service includes a public interface that has an implementation and provides access to functionality in an extension;

a plurality of extensions to extend an application, wherein the plurality of extensions provide functionality accessible in the user interface, wherein an extension includes;

a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language, and
an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,

wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are contained within an XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions and ensure services requested by the XML description are available; and

an optional set of resources; and

wherein the extensions define handlers for the XML tag found in the XML description;

wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in the plurality of extensions;

wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the services are consumed by the set of classes;

wherein one of the plurality of extensions provides functionality accessible in the user interface; and

wherein one of the plurality of services provides access to functionality in one of the plurality of extensions; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each may describe a different type of extension.

2. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media framework of claim 1 wherein:

one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

3. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media framework of claim 1 wherein:

~~an a first~~ extension is an interchangeable application building block.

4-6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media framework of claim 1 wherein:

~~an a first~~ extension provides functionality to support at least one of: 1) a document type; 2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings; and 5) debugging information.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for configuring an application in a computer-based extendable application framework, comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface at a computer to allow user interaction with the application;

providing a plurality of extensions at the computer to extend the application,
wherein an extension includes:

a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language; and
an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,

wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are
contained within a XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID
attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions and
ensure services requested by the XML description are available; and

an optional set of resources; and

wherein the extensions define handlers for the XML tag found in the XML
description;

wherein the providing permits one of the plurality of extensions to provide
functionality accessible in the user interface; and

providing a plurality of services wherein the providing permits one of the plurality
of services to provide access to functionality in one of the plurality of extensions;

wherein a service includes a public interface that has an implementation and
provides access to functionality in an extension;

wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in
the plurality of extensions; ~~and~~

wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services
associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the services
are consumed by the set of classes; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more
children elements that may each describe a different type of extension.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein:

one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein:

an extension is an interchangeable application building block.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein:
an extension includes a set of resources.

12-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein:
an extension provides functionality to support at least one of: 1) a document type;
2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings; and 5) debugging
information.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon computer instructions for a computer-based extendable application framework that when executed by a processor ~~computer-readable storage medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by a processor~~ cause a system to:
provide a user interface to allow user interaction with an application;
provide a plurality of extensions to extend the application, wherein the plurality of extensions provide functionality accessible in the user interface, wherein an extension includes;
a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language, and
an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,
wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are contained within an XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions and ensure services requested by the XML description are available and wherein the providing permits one of the plurality of extensions to provide functionality accessible in the user interface; and
an optional set of resources; and
wherein the extensions define handlers for the XML tag found in the XML description;

provide a plurality of services wherein the providing permits one of the plurality of services to provide access to functionality in one of the plurality of extensions;

wherein a service includes a public interface that has an implementation and provides access to functionality in an extension;

wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in the plurality of extensions; and

wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the services are consumed by the set of classes; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each may describe a different type of extension.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15 wherein:

one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15 wherein:

an extension is an interchangeable application building block.

18-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15 wherein:

an extension provides functionality to support at least one of: 1) a document type; 2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings; and 5) debugging information.

22-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media framework of claim 1, wherein the plurality of services includes at least one of:

- a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;
- a frame service to allow extensions to specify a graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;
- a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;
- a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;
- a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are part of an application project; and
- an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and toolbar items.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the plurality of services includes at least one of:

- a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;
- a frame service to allow extensions to specify a graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;
- a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;
- a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;
- a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are part of an application project; and
- an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and toolbar items.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15, wherein the plurality of services includes at least one of:

- a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;
- a frame service to allow extensions to specify a graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;

a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;
a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;
a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are part of an application project; and
an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and toolbar items.

32. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media framework of claim 1, wherein the code fragments are contained within an XML tag and the code fragments are passed to handlers for the particular ID attribute at runtime.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the code fragments are contained within an XML tag and the code fragments are passed to handlers for the particular ID attribute at runtime.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15, wherein the code fragments are contained within an XML tag and the code fragments are passed to handlers for the particular ID attribute at runtime.